



NEWSLETTER

PROBUS CLUB OF VANCOUVER

PO Box 74539, KITSILANO, Vancouver, BC, V6K 4P4

Enriching members with topical, entertaining speakers and social activities

www.probusvancouver.com

August, 2022

President
Tim Sehmer
604-263-7332
timsehmer@gmail.com

Past President
Rich Carson
604-261-0974
rcarson75@gmail.com

Vice President
Richard Earthy
604-603-3343
rdearthy@telus.net

Secretary
Brian Street
604-837-8534
brian@brianstreet.com

Treasurer
John Kay
604-261-3760
jkay33@shaw.ca

Speakers Committee
Bill Hooker
604-261-5604
mayneid@yahoo.com

Membership Committee
Jack Zaleski
604-328-4288
jack.zaleski@gmail.com

Activities Committee
Richard Earthy
604-603-3343
rdearthy@telus.net

Website and Database Committee
Alain Boisset
604-801-5592
alain.boisset@telus.net

Member Services & House Committee
Raymond Greenwood
604-733-6453
greenwd@telus.net

Newsletter Editor & Publisher
Peter Scott
604-263-1746
peter26@telus.net

Historian/Archivist
Hugh Lindsay
604-732-0366
hughl@telus.net

Counsel
Carl Jonsson
Bill Randall

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 9 at 9:30 am
at The HR MacMillan Space Centre
Speaker: Rashid Sumaila, FRCS. Professor
in Interdisciplinary Ocean and Fisheries Eco-
nomics at UBC
Topic: Fisheries resources and its
economics**

NEXT MONTH'S SPEAKER

**Sept 13: The Honourable Steven Point,
Chancellor, UBC**

Topic: Indigenous Self-Government

RASHID SUMAILA



Rashid Sumaila is a Professor and Canada Research Chair (Tier 1) in Interdisciplinary Ocean and Fisheries Economics at the Institute for the Oceans and Fisheries, and the School of Public Policy and Global Affairs, University of British Columbia. His research focuses on bio economics, marine ecosystem valuation and the analysis of global issues such as fisheries subsidies, marine protected areas, illegal fishing, climate change, marine plastic pollution, and oil spills. Sumaila has experience working in fisheries and natural resource projects in Norway, Canada and the North Atlantic region, Namibia and the Southern African region, Ghana and the West African region and Hong Kong and the South China Sea. Dr. Sumaila received his Ph.D. (Economics) from the University of Bergen and his B.Sc. (Quantity Surveying) from the Ahmadu Bello University. Sumaila is widely published and cited. He won the 2017 Volvo Environment Prize and was named a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 2019. His interest in the environment started early in life when his grandfather used to say people should “walk as if the ground feels pain” – this is sophisticated environmentalism! His specific interest in ocean and fisheries was picked in Norway. Sumaila enjoys exploring novel ideas and mentoring future thinkers. He loves waking up each day thinking of how best to contribute to ensuring that we bequeath a healthy ocean to our children and grandchildren so they too can have the option to do the same. Sumaila’s research involve: (i) applying game theory to fisheries, to, for example, identify whether or not developing countries should give access to their fisheries resources to foreign fleets; (ii) rethinking the nature of the discount rates applied to natural resource projects, and formulating a highly original alternative (“intergeneration discount rates”); (iii) understanding the nature, amounts and effects of government subsidies on global fisheries; (iv) documenting the employment in fisheries and competing uses of living marine resources; and, (v) estimating the multiple benefits that would be obtained globally by rebuilding fish stocks and setting up marine reserves, including the concept of the ‘High Seas’ as a large marine reserve or a ‘fish bank’ for the world.

Report of the June 14th Meeting

Attendance: 91+ Members and Guests

President Tim started the meeting at 10 am sharp. Following the customary amusing story, Tim called Jack Zaleski up to introduce a new member (see page 3). Tim then called on Richard Earthy to give us a brief summary of Activities either happening or planned. He then asked new member Peter Speer to introduce our guest speaker, Jasper Lament.

With over 50,000 species, BC is Canada's most biodiverse province or territory. However, over 90% of these species have not yet been assessed for their conservation status. Almost half of the assessed species are at risk of extinction. According to a recent study from Cornell University, North America has lost nearly 3 billion birds since 1970. The situation is looking pretty grim. The Nature Trust of BC (NTBC) has been working over the last 51 years to help protect the biodiversity and habitats of BC. Their CEO, Dr. Jasper Lament, shared more about their work, their strategy moving forward, and how folks can support ongoing conservation efforts.

Founded in 1971, NTBC's mission is to secure and manage ecologically significant lands to conserve BC's biological diversity. Unlike many other organizations in the environmental sector, NTBC does not engage in advocacy or environmental education. They take a critical science-backed approach to select key properties for biodiversity conservation. Their board comprises a blend of business people, biologists, academics, and conservationists from across the province with complementary experiences and expertise.

One of the best ways to protect these species is to protect their habitat. To date, NTBC has secured over 500 properties totalling 180,000 acres for conservation purposes. The properties are concentrated in several regions of BC. These lands have the highest biodiversity, are most threatened, and have the highest percentage of BC's privately-owned properties. These include the Coastal Douglas-fir zone on the east coast of Vancouver Island and on the mainland and the Dry Interior zone.

The Okanagan is a particularly vital area when it comes to conservation. It has Canada's highest concentration of species at risk and is known as a biodiversity hot spot. NTBC's Antelope Brush Conservation Area has more than 20 species at risk, including pallid bats, snakes, and the Behr's Hairstreak butterfly, which cannot complete its lifecycle without antelope brush. The antelope brush ecosystem not only provides excellent habitat for many of BC's endangered species but also lends itself to ideal grape-growing conditions for all of the delicious BC wine we enjoy so much, making it highly sought after.

The Southern Gulf Islands are another biodiversity hotspot. Unfortunately, most of this habitat has been fragmented into small lots. NTBC was lucky enough to come across an opportunity to purchase one sizeable 150-acre chunk of this intact habitat on Saturna Island recently, thanks to a conservation-minded individual who was willing to provide a discount on the land.

Our presenter's favourite NTBC property is the Salmon River Conservation Area. This is a vital estuary for migratory birds and sup-

ports steelhead runs, all five salmon species, Dolly Varden, and Sea-run Cutthroat trout. The area has also, unfortunately, sustained large amounts of industrial and residential impacts. Over the course of 42 years, NTBC has made six acquisitions totalling 937 acres to protect and restore this habitat. They claim that the largest Steelhead on the Island come through there, and even grizzly bears have swum over from the mainland and recolonized the area to snack on the bountiful fish over the last couple of years. This property is part of the Enhancing Estuary Resiliency program, which works with Coastal First Nations to enhance the long-term sustainability and health of wild BC fish stocks. Through this program, 15 estuaries are being studied, with several undergoing restoration on Vancouver Island, the Central Coast, and Haida Gwaii. This science-based initiative uses field techniques developed by the National Oceanographic Association to study the resilience of estuaries in the face of climate change and sea level rise projections. Using this data, NTBC can prioritize the acquisitions of estuaries that are more likely to remain functional over the next century.

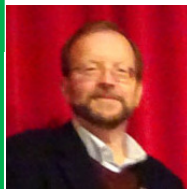
While it would be nice to simply move on to the next project after acquiring a property, they must also manage them. Every summer, NTBC trains a new batch of young environmentalists to join their conservation field crew. This next generation of conservation professionals control invasive species, repair fences, monitor plants, engage with the local communities, and work with wildlife researchers within the conservation areas. Of course, NTBC isn't doing all of this work on its own. They also work in diverse partnerships with many governments, NGOs, and First Nations to manage the lands.

NTBC has been steadily acquiring about \$3.3 million worth of land annually over the last 15 years, but over this period, the footprint of that conservation impact kept shrinking. With more and more people looking to buy in BC, the ever-rising cost of real estate has made it much harder to protect these high-competition areas of the province. In 2019, NTBC committed to accelerating land acquisition by seeking out larger properties as part of their strategic plan. By purchasing larger properties in the \$3-6 million range, they'll avoid the high competition common in the \$1 million range and see more bang for their buck overall.

Indeed, acquiring these lands takes a lot of money. Folks can help NTBC achieve its mission by telling their friends and families about their work. The organization is hosting a fundraising gala on October 6th. You can donate today or leave a legacy gift for the future as Patrick Oswald did. The next property on their wish list is White Lake Basin in the heart of the Okanagan. Donations help NTBC make bigger and bolder plays for biodiversity protection before land gets even more expensive and fragmented. John Kay thanked Dr Lament and presented him with the honorarium which will, of course, go to the Nature Trust

To read the Questions & Answers, please go to our PROBUS website at www.probusvancouver.com, click on "Speakers" then on "Dr Jasper Lament"

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I hope you're all having a wonderful summer now that some warm weather has arrived at last!

We're planning to continue having hybrid meetings (where members have the option of participating in the meeting in person or through Zoom) for the foreseeable future. We're aware that there was a technical glitch at the July 17 meeting, which resulted in the Zoom participants not being able to see Jasper Lament's slides (other than his very first one) during his presentation. Fortunately, Jack Zaleski has found a work-around to avoid this problem in the future.

I look forward to seeing you at the August 9 meeting!



Rotarians' Investment Club



As is our usual practice we will not be meeting in July or August.

Our next meeting will be held at RVYC at 6pm on Thursday, September 29th.

Our meetings are held monthly at 6:00 pm on the last Thursday of the month, and last for about 3 hours. We invite new prospective members or those who are just interested in learning a bit more about our club to come out to each of our meetings.

Please email me to RSVP.

Gabby Dickert, Membership Chair

gabrielledickert@gmail.com

778-668-9361

REPORT ON OUR VISIT TO THE ISMAILI CENTRE

On Thursday, July 21 a group of 20 PROBUS members and guests arrived at the Ismaili Centre and were greeted by volunteer, Moe Baloo, with whom the visit, tour and lunch was arranged. We were split into two groups and were given a tour of the building, mainly learning about the architecture and the construction of this amazing building which was designed by renowned Vancouver architect, Bruno Freschi. The importance of the octagonal shape within the Ismaili community was clearly evident in every area of the building, especially in The Prayer Hall which we were permitted to enter but our shoes were not!

Following the tour, we were provided with a delicious lunch box which we enjoyed in the Social Room. During the meal, we heard more about the Ismaili religion from Omar Kassam, one of the local scholars.



PROBUS FRED COTTON BOOK CLUB

The next meeting of the Book Club will be at 9:30 am on Wednesday September 7, at the White Spot at **2518 West Broadway**.

Books we will discuss are:

Sept. 7 Value(s): Building a Better World for All by Mark Carney

Oct. 5 The Gates of Europe: A History of Ukraine by Serhil Plokyh

A list of books read since the Club began in 2008 may be found on the Club website by clicking the "Book Club" link. For further information contact Ken Yule at kjyqc@shaw.ca or 604-266-4563.

WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBER



Gerry Reinders

Corporate Executive

THURSDAY, AUGUST 11 – 8:45 AM—1 PM

DID YOU EVER WONDER WHERE OUR DELICIOUS DRINKING WATER COMES FROM? IF SO, HERE'S YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO FIND OUT BY JOINING A FREE PRIVATE CONDUCTED TOUR OF THE CAPILANO WATERSHED.

Start your tour overlooking complimented by the Lions, peaks. Join our tour guide watershed to explore ry of your tap water from



will visit the Cleveland Dam, the historic Settling Ponds and Rodgers Lake (an alpine reservoir that feeds into the Capilano River). Through short presentations, you'll learn about the history of the region's water supply, water quality, treatment, how it gets to your home and the role of a healthy ecosystem in maintaining exceptional water quality.

the majestic Capilano Reservoir two of Vancouver's most iconic for a journey into this protected unique landscapes that tell the sto- past to present. On this tour you

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Plan to arrive at the meeting point, the Cleveland Dam parking lot on Capilano Road just north of Montroyal Boulevard in North Vancouver) by 8:45 am. The tour starts at 9 am and returns to the parking lot at 1 pm.

Things to bring: medication, comfortable walking shoes, snacks, drinks, proper clothing including hat and rainwear, sunscreen, camera, fully charged cell phone. The Watershed is often cooler and wetter than elsewhere in the region.

On arrival at the parking lot, you will be asked to sign a Watershed Declaration form, which can be viewed by downloading this QR code on your phone.



REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR THIS EVENT

THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR THIS EVENT—I GUEST PER MEMBER

Register by clicking (or CTRL+Click) on the link below

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/tour-of-the-capilano-watershed-thursday-august-11th-tickets-374586808227>

**Please direct any questions to:
Joel Altman at jaltman@shaw.ca**

THE PRESIDENTS' LUNCH IS BACK!!

That's right, it's been missing for 2 years but finally this popular event is returning this year, on

Tuesday October 11th, 2022 – open to members and 1 guest
The Arbutus Club, 2001 Nanton Avenue

Morning coffee and tea service will be available from 9:30

Come and hear Fiona Dalton, President and Chief Executive Officer of Providence Health Care tell us how St. Paul's Hospital will go

FROM THIS



TO THIS



Ms. Dalton's presentation will be followed by a fellowship break, with a no-host bar. Then a healthy and hearty Gourmet Buffet will be served. There will be a vegetarian soup, assorted whole wheat bread and tortilla wraps with a variety of meat, seafood and vegetarian fillings, crudité and salad and finishing with assorted dessert squares and cookies.

The cost and registration details will be in the September newsletter